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THIS IS LOIS LANE, COMING TO YOU FROM THE KASHMIR REGION--
--THERE'S A LOT OF DUST AND DEBRIS IN THE ?kaf? AIR, THROWN UP WHEN THE BEHEMOTH FELL...
...THE J.S.A.'S MR. TERRIFIC NOW CONFIRMS THE MISSILES HAVE BEEN DISARMED--
--MY GOD--
--IT'S RIGHT ON TOP OF US!
MS. LANE--
--WE HAVE TO FALL BACK--
RON, ARE WE LINKING THIS ON THE PLANET'S BLOG?
FOR THE LAST HOUR.
HOW LONG BEFORE WE CAN ADAPT IT FOR PRINT?
WORKING ON THAT NOW, PERRY.
--COME ON!
DIDN'T SHE QUIT, PERRY? I MEAN, WE RUN HER STORY LIKE THIS...
...LOIS ISN'T AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DAILY PLANET ANYMORE.
RON...
...SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN A DAILY PLANET EMPLOYEE.
WAIT! WAIT! THEY'RE GOING IN AGAIN--

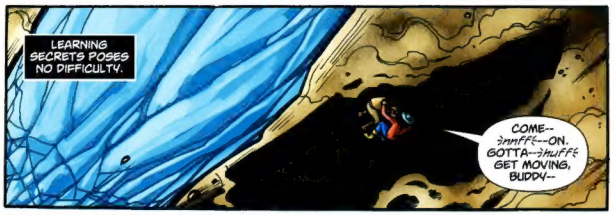
--I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY'RE GOING TO STOP THIS THING...
HIT IT WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!
SOMETHING'LL MAKE THIS MONSTROSITY FALL...
MONSTROSITY?
TRUTH TO POWER
FINALE
GREG RUCKA & ERIC TRAUTMANN: WRITERS
PERE PEREZ: PENCILLER • BIT: INKER
JAVIER MENA: COLORIST • ROB LEIGH: LETTERER
ALEX GARNER: COVER
WIL MOSS: ASST. EDITOR • MATT IDELSON: EDITOR
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
FROM THE MISTS OF LOST KRYPTON, STORIES ARE TOLD OF TWO MYTHICAL HEROES WHO TIME AND TIME AGAIN ROSE TO PROTECT THEIR PEOPLE FROM TYRANNY AND TERROR --
NIGHTWING AND FLAMEBIRD
NEVER A MONSTROSITY! A REDEMPTION!
YOU ARE THE MONSTROSITIES!

THE BREAKER CAPERS AND LAUGHS, COMPLETELY MAD.
THE FALSE IMAGE OF FATHER RAO MOANS A DIRGE FOR THIS DOOMED WORLD.
AND THE FLAMEBIRD HOWLS IN PRIMAL RAGE, BURNING OH SO BRIGHTLY, A PRECIOUS JEWEL.
BUT HERE IN THE DARK...NO SECRETS CAN HIDE FROM ME.
BEEEEP!
ALERT! GRAVITY WELL FORMATION IMMINENT.
OH THAT SOUNDS BAD.

YES. CRACK-THE-PLANET-APART-AND-SUCK-IT-BEYOND-THE-EVENT-HORIZON BAD.
RAO'S MASS IS INCREASING. WHEN IT HITS A TIPPING POINT, HE'LL COLLAPSE INTO A SINGULARITY.
SEISMIC READINGS SHOW THOSE CRYSTALLINE INTRUSIONS MOVING TOWARD THE PLANETARY CORE...
HERE IN THE SHADOWS...I HEAR EVERYTHING.
...RAO IS PUTTING DOWN ROOTS.
NOOOOOO!

--I'LLGETHIM--
SHUNK
SHUNNK
SHUNK
IMAGINE DROWNING IN A SEA OF HIDDEN KNOWLEDGE.

EVERY SECRET DESIRE, EVERY BLACK THOUGHT.
SHRIP
--NNGGGH!


LEARNING SECRETS POSES NO DIFFICULTY.
COME--SNIFFF--ON. GOTTA--SNIFFF GET MOVING, BUDDY--

KEEPING SUCH KNOWLEDGE FROM BECOMING OVERWHELMING IS THE CHALLENGE.
KRRAK
I AM RAO-THE-FATHER'S EYES IN THE NIGHT.
LOOK OUT!

I AM THE KEEPER OF HIS SECRET KNOWLEDGE.
AND KNOWLEDGE...
...IS POWER.
NIGHTWING?!
GET HIM CLEAR.
YOU'VE GOT IT, KID...
...AND THANKS.
COME. WE SHOULD REJOIN THE OTHERS.
WAIT! WHAT'RE YOU--
MY HOST IS AWASH IN CONFUSION, STRUGGLING AGAINST THE TIDE OF BOTTOMLESS INFORMATION.
--DOING?
CHRIS!
HE MUST KNOW HIMSELF, AND UNLEASH THE POWER OF THAT KNOWLEDGE. IF WE ARE TO PREVAIL, HE MUST CALM HIMSELF.
HIS ADOPTIVE MOTHER WILL SURELY KNOW HOW TO DO THAT.
DO NOT BE AFRAID, MOTHER-OF-MY-HOST. WE ARE UNHARMED...
...MOM?

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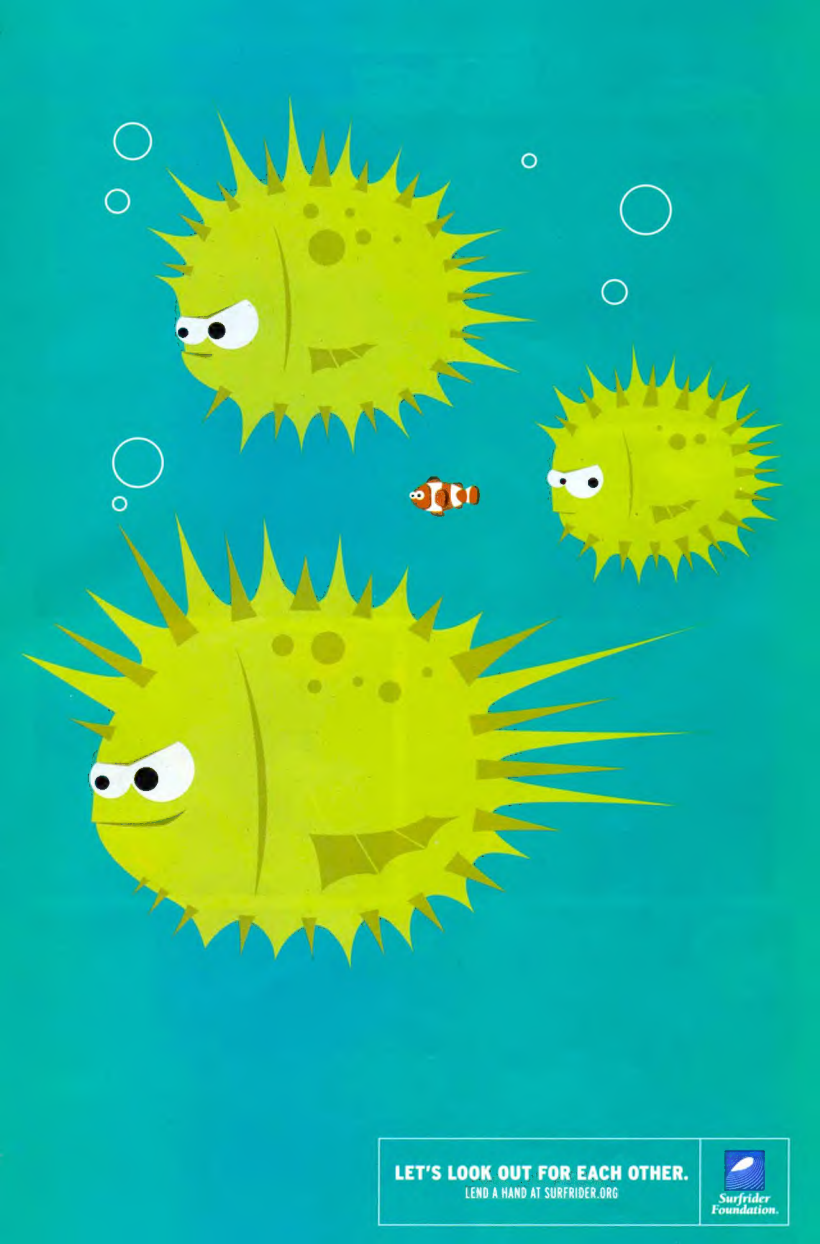
WHAT'S... WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU?
IT'S...LIKE I CAN SEE AND HEAR *EVERYTHING*. NOT LIKE A KRYPTONIAN WOULD. IT'S... *BIGGER* SOMEHOW.
I FEEL LIKE THERE'S A PIECE OF ME EVERYWHERE...THAT I CAN *BE* EVERYWHERE...

THARA IS HOST TO THE FLAMEBIRD. AND NOW, I'VE FOUND THE NIGHTWING.
I THINK THE NIGHTWING IS SHOWING ME WHAT WE NEED TO DO.

IF THERE'S A PLAN, SON, I'M ALL EARS.
THE GRAVITIC INSTABILITY IS GROWING. IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES, WE'RE GOING TO BE TORN APART AND PULLED INSIDE--

THAT IS NOT OUR *DESTINY*.
VOHC-THE-BREAKER WOULD USHER IN AN END TO ALL THINGS, AN EPOCH OF CHAOS.

THEN HE SHALL FIND *DR. FATE* STANDS AGAINST HIM.

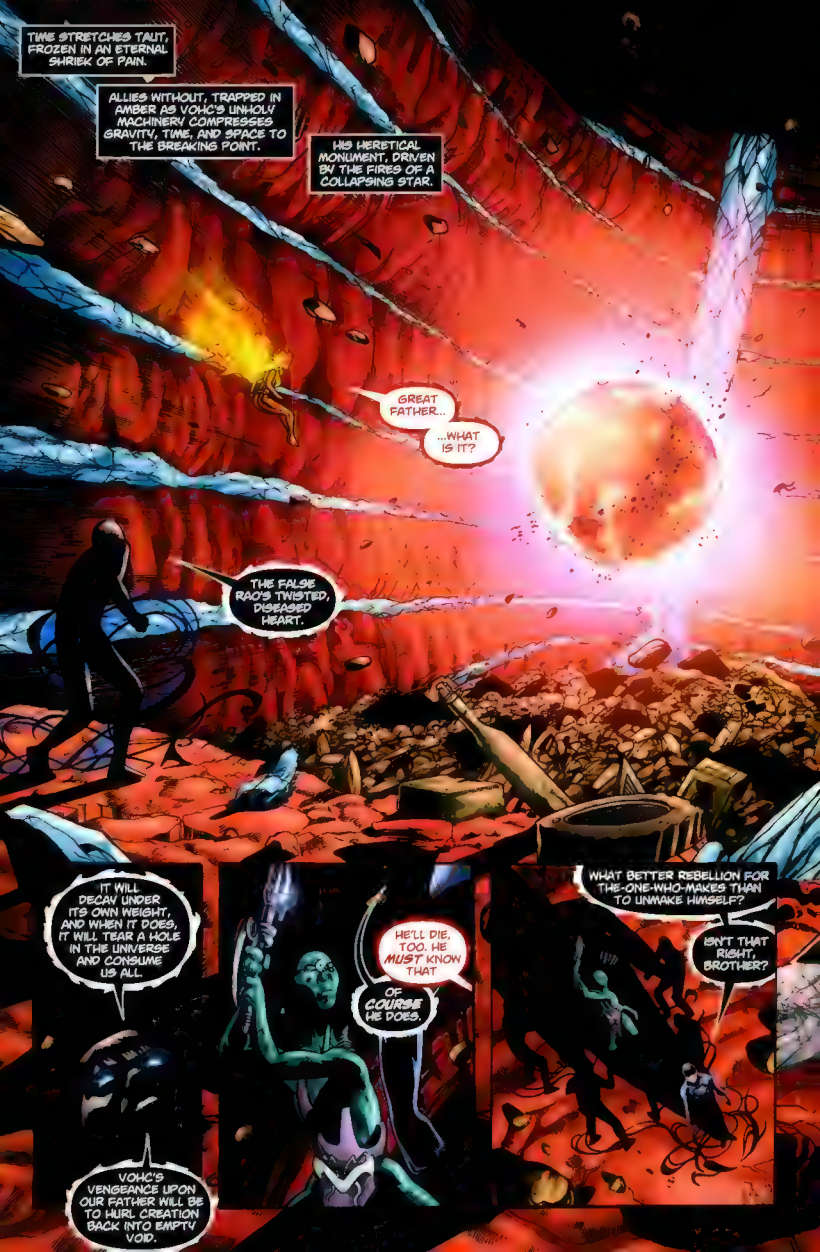

LET'S LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER.
LEND A HAND AT SURFRIDER.ORG
Surfrider Foundation.

VA-DEET
ALERT! GRAVITIC ANOMALY INTENSIFYING!
ALAN! GO!
BRACE YOURSELVES.
THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET PRETTY ROUGH.
DO YOU SEE, SISTER? DO YOU SEE IT?
MY MASTERPIECE.
ALL I SEE IS YOUR INSANITY, BREAKER.
IT WILL MAKE A PALTRY EPITAPH.
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
HAHAHAHA!
EPITAPH? THIS IS BUT THE BEGINNING, FLAMEBIRD.
THE FIRST STEP TOWARD RIGHTING THE MANY WRONGS I HAVE ENDURED.
TIME TO AVENGE THE GRIEVOUS INSULTS I HAVE SUFFERED FOR SO VERY, VERY LONG.

DARKNESS RISES.
HIS MASS IS INCREASING EXPONENTIALLY.
AH, DEATH BY BLACK HOLE...
THREE MINUTES THIRTY-SEVEN SECONDS BEFORE WE'RE SPAGHETTIFIED.
IT'S GETTING HARDER TO KEEP THIS SHIELD UP!
LIGHT BEGINS TO BEND BACK UPON ITSELF, TRAPPED.
THE CHAOS IS FOCUSED WITHIN ITS HEART.
THEN THAT SHALL BE OUR POINT OF ATTACK.
AND STILL...
WE WILL OPEN THE BLASPHEMY'S BREAST.
STAY IN MY SHADOW.
...SHE BURNS.

FATE!
CHAIN HIM!
WHERE-
BE CALM...
...I BROUGHT THEM WITH ME, LOVE.
NO!
MY NIGHTWING.
...YOU HAVE RETURNED TO--
NO NOT POSSIBLE NO ONE ESCAPES YOU--
WE HAVE NO TIME FOR THIS.

NO! I SHALL NOT BE STOPPED--
--HEAR ME!
GHNNN
NIGHTWING!
nHHHNNn
WE MUST HELP THEM--
THEY WILL BE SAFE.
COME, MY LIGHT...
...LET US REUNITE WITH OUR MAD BROTHER.


TIME STRETCHES TAUT, FROZEN IN AN ETERNAL SHRIEK OF PAIN.
ALLIES WITHOUT, TRAPPED IN AMBER AS VOHC'S UNHOLY MACHINERY COMPRESSES GRAVITY, TIME, AND SPACE TO THE BREAKING POINT.
HIS HERETICAL MONUMENT, DRIVEN BY THE FIRES OF A COLLAPSING STAR.
GREAT FATHER...
...WHAT IS IT?
THE FALSE RAO'S TWISTED, DISEASED HEART.
IT WILL DECAY UNDER ITS OWN WEIGHT, AND WHEN IT DOES, IT WILL TEAR A HOLE IN THE UNIVERSE AND CONSUME US ALL.
VOHC'S VENGEANCE UPON OUR FATHER WILL BE TO HURL CREATION BACK INTO EMPTY VOID.
HE'LL DIE, TOO. HE MUST KNOW THAT
OF COURSE HE DOES.
WHAT BETTER REBELLION FOR THE-ONE-WHO-MAKES THAN TO UNMAKE HIMSELF?
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, BROTHER?

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CURSE YOU! DAMN YOU! YOU DON'T--YOU CAN'T--KNOW--
COME, BROTHER. HERE IN THE DARK...
WHOOOSH
WHAP
...I KNOW ALL.
FOOL.
CAN'T YOU SEE? OUR FATHER HAS DOOMED US
DEATH. REBIRTH. CONSTRUCTION DECIMATION.
ALL TO APPEASE HIS BOTTOMLESS HUNGER FOR ORDER. ALL FOR NOTHING
OBLIVION IS A GIFT.
ACCEPT IT

MY BELOVED SHINES, A DEADLY JEWEL.
THROWING GARBAGE AT US?
THIS IS YOUR MASTER STROKE, BREAKER?

OH, MY POOR BROTHER. POOR, CONFUSED, REBELLIOUS VOHC. TO SO FIERCELY LOVE THAT WHICH WILL DESTROY YOU.
BREAKER? I WAS BROKEN. YOU BROKE ME!
NOT YET BUT SOON, BETRAYER.
I WEEP FOR YOU, SISTER. YOU BRING ONLY RUIN.

EVERY FLAME A CARESS.
LIKE YOU SAID, BREAKER. ACCEPT IT.

HER WAR CRY, A SYMPHONY.
COWARD! HOARDER OF LIES!
SKULKING IN SHADOW, AND USING THE SAME TACTICS YOUR "BELOVED" MOCKED.
THAT IS NOT AN ATTACK, BROTHER.

HAVE NO FEAR, MY LOST KINSMAN.
YOUR PAIN WILL BE EASED SOON ENOUGH.
IT'S A DISTRACTION.
--NNNGH!

THEY'VE BEEN RESURRECTED – FOR A REASON!

BRIGHTEST DAY

Written by

GEOFF JOHNS PETER J. TOMASI

Art by

IVAN REIS PAT GLEASON ARDIAN SYAF

SCOTT CLARK JOE PRADO

DCCOMICS.COM

TWICE A MONTH BEGINNING

APRIL 2010

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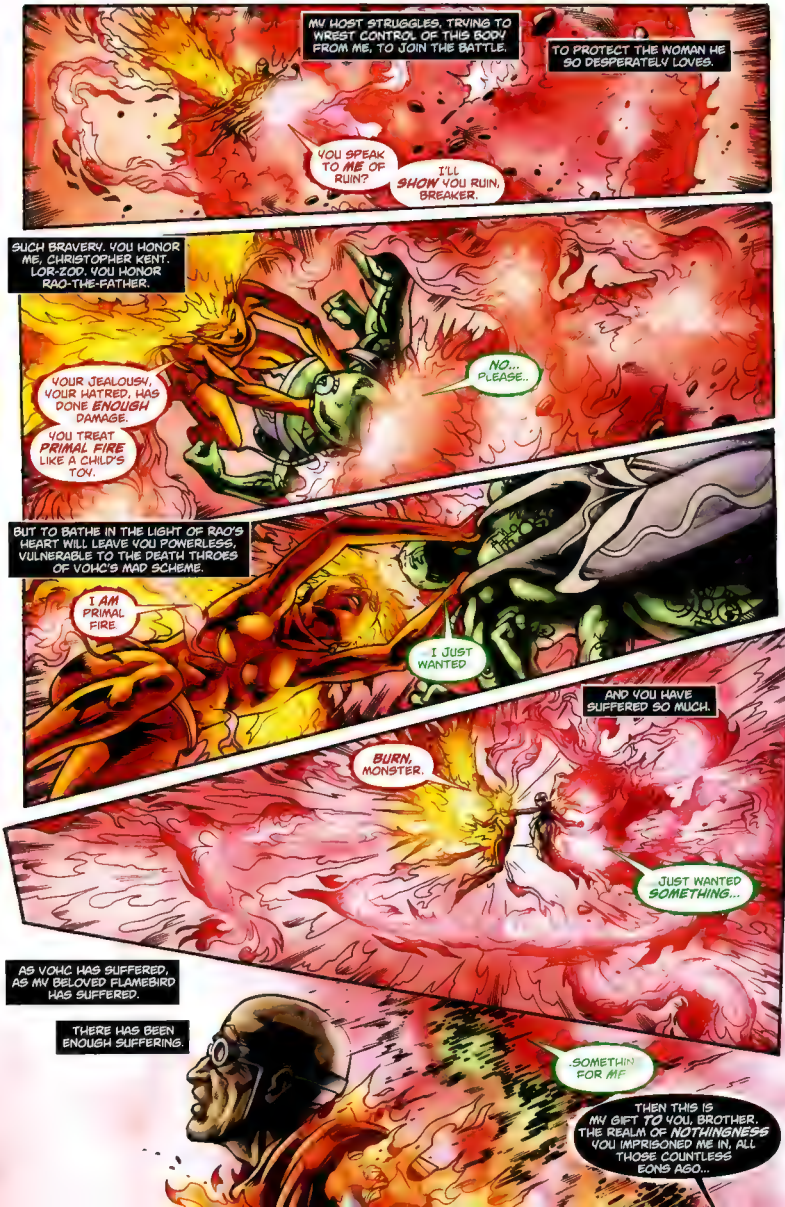
MY HOST STRUGGLES, TRYING TO WREST CONTROL OF THIS BODY FROM ME, TO JOIN THE BATTLE.
TO PROTECT THE WOMAN HE SO DESPERATELY LOVES.
YOU SPEAK TO ME OF RUIN?
I'LL SHOW YOU RUIN, BREAKER.
SUCH BRAVERY. YOU HONOR ME, CHRISTOPHER KENT. LOR-ZOD. YOU HONOR RAO-THE-FATHER.
NO... PLEASE..
YOUR JEALOUSY, YOUR HATRED, HAS DONE ENOUGH DAMAGE.
YOU TREAT PRIMAL FIRE LIKE A CHILD'S TOY.
BUT TO BATHE IN THE LIGHT OF RAO'S HEART WILL LEAVE YOU POWERLESS, VULNERABLE TO THE DEATH THROES OF VOHC'S MAD SCHEME.
I AM PRIMAL FIRE.
I JUST WANTED
AND YOU HAVE SUFFERED SO MUCH.
BURN, MONSTER.
JUST WANTED SOMETHING...
AS VOHC HAS SUFFERED, AS MY BELOVED FLAMEBIRD HAS SUFFERED.
THERE HAS BEEN ENOUGH SUFFERING.
SOMETHIN' FOR ME
THEN THIS IS MY GIFT TO YOU, BROTHER. THE REALM OF NOTHINGNESS YOU IMPRISONED ME IN, ALL THOSE COUNTLESS EONS AGO...

SAD, LOST VOHC NEVER UNDERSTOOD.
...LET THAT PLACE OF SHADOWS AND EMPTINESS, OF PHANTOMS IN THE DARK, BE YOUR HOME.
IT WAS FATHER RAO'S WILL THAT HE BE THE MAKER.
HIS HERESY, ASSUMING THE ROLE OF BREAKER, AND CASTING ME INTO NOTHINGNESS CHANGED ME.
THERE'S TOO MUCH
CAN'T... CONTAIN IT ALL
EVEN IN HIS ATTEMPTS TO UNMAKE US, HE CREATED SOMETHING NEW.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MY LOVE.
HE FOREVER LINKED ME TO THAT PLACE.
YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.
I FEEL IT GROWING, EXPANDING AS MY LOST BROTHER IS WOVEN INTO THE FABRIC OF HIS OWN CREATION.
VOHC IS ONCE AGAIN BUILDING, ONCE AGAIN THE MAKER, SHAPING HIS NEWLY RESTORED DIMENSION IN WAYS I CAN ONLY BEGIN TO GUESS.
SO I GIVE HIM THIS GIFT, SENDING THE BURNING HEART OF HIS CREATION INTO THAT COLD PLACE.
BE WARM, MY BROTHER.
BE AT PEACE.

AND LET THERE BE AN END, AT LAST, TO THIS CYCLE OF DESPAIR AND BETRAYAL.
BLOOD
GREAT HERA.

WHO WILL WIELD THE WHITE LIGHT?

BRIGHTEST DAY

GREEN LANTERN #53

GEOFF JOHNS

APRIL 2010

GREEN LANTERN CORPS #48

MAY 2010

...IT'S DOWN...
...RAO IS DOWN...
...AS TO NIGHTWING AND FLAMEBIRD, THEY WERE STILL INSIDE--
THERE!
LIVE
IT'S OVER.
GRAVITY WELL IS GONE. SPATIAL INTEGRITY... NOMINAL.
YOU DID IT.
I ALWAYS KNEW YOU KIDS HAD IT IN YOU.
IT WAS ALWAYS IN US.
WE JUST NEEDED TO FIND EACH OTHER AGAIN.

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE FOREST...
SOMETHING BESIDES THE EMERALD ARCHER.

BRIGHTEST DAY

GREEN ARROW #1

Written by J.T. KRUL Art by DIOGENES NEVES Covers by MAURO CASCIOLI

DC COMICS.COM

A NEW MONTHLY SERIES
JUNE 2010

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NEVER APART.
NEVER APART.
CLEANUP CREW INCOMING.
AND AS KRYPTONIANS ARE STILL THE BOSEMEN OF THE PLANET AT THE MOMENT...
...NOW MIGHT BE THE BEST TIME FOR A HASTY EXIT.
WE'LL HANDLE THE REST. YOU TWO SHOULD GO.
AGREED.
THANK YOU, JAY...
...THANKS TO ALL OF YOU.

(...YES, GENERAL, BUT IF YOU'LL ALLOW ME TO GET A WORD IN, PLEASE.)
(THE SITUATION HAS RESOLVED.)
HERE.
EVERY PIECE YOU CAN MANAGE.
THE LARGER, THE BETTER.
THE MORE INTACT, THE BETTER...
...I'VE GOT PLANS FOR HIM...
NIGHTWING & FLAMEBIRD'S STORY CONTINUES IN SUPERMAN: WAR OF THE SUPERMEN #0, IN STORES MAY 1!
AND NOW, THE FINALE OF...
CAPTAIN ATOM

...THANK YOU, MY CAPTAIN ATOM.
I COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU.
FREE YOUR LAND? I'M GLAD I COULD BE A PART OF THIS. HONORED.
AND SORRY THAT IT COST POOR DANEL HIS LIFE.
YES. POOR DANEL. ALTHOUGH HONESTLY, HE WAS A BIT OF A BOOR. GOOD IN A FIGHT, YES, BUT HIS OWN BIGGEST FAN.
AGGARO.
YOU'RE DIFFERENT.
HOW, CAPTAIN?
YOU... YOUR MANNER...THE WAY YOU SPEAK. THE WAY YOU STAND, EVEN. IT'S DIFFERENT.
YES, THE NEED FOR MASKS AND SUCH IS DONE. MIRABAI LIES DEFEATED.
I STAND THE VICTOR...THE NEW RULER OF SORCERERS' WORLD.
AGGARO?
NO, CAPTAIN, NOT AGGARO. AS I SAID...NO MORE MASKS.

NOT EVEN THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE CAN OUTRUN EVERYTHING!

BRIGHTEST DAY

The FLASH #1

GEOFF JOHNS FRANCIS MANAPUL

DC COMICS.COM

A NEW MONTHLY SERIES
APRIL 2010

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MY NAME IS MORDRU.
MORDRU!? I KNOW YOU... HEARD OF YOU, ANYWAY. YOU'RE A VILLAIN. YOU FOUGHT THE JUSTICE SOCIETY.
ON EARTH... YOUR WORLD... I DO STAND A VILLAIN IN THE EYES OF SOME WITHIN YOUR FELLOWSHIP OF POWERS AND COSTUMES.
OBVIOUSLY I DON'T SEE MYSELF THAT WAY-- I'M MERELY SOMEONE WITH OBJECTIVES YOUR "HEROES" ARE SOMETIMES COUNTER TO.
HERE TODAY, HOWEVER, YOU WERE FAR FROM COUNTER, CAPTAIN. AND MY GOALS, I'D STRONGLY AVER, WERE RATHER NOBLE.
I WANTED THIS LAND FREE FROM MIRABAI'S TYRANNY.
HER MAGICKS--ESPECIALLY WITHIN THE CASTLE AND OTHER KEY PARTS OF THE COUNTRYSIDE--WERE SO STEEPED IN HER SELF-PRESERVING HEX...I WOULD HAVE BEEN POWERLESS TO FIGHT HER MAGE TO MAGE.
BETTER I KEEP MY CARDS HIDDEN, MY EYES DOWN, MY IDENTITY HERE CLOAKED.

NO ONE REMEMBERS MAX LORD...EXCEPT THEM!

BRIGHTEST DAY

Story by

Covers by

JUSTICE LEAGUE #1

GENERATION LOST

TWICE A MONTH BEGINNING

MAY 2010

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SO SORCERERS' WORLD TRADES ONE TYRANT FOR ANOTHER.
NO, I WANT THIS WORLD TO BE A HAPPY ONE.
BUT YOUR ACTIONS ON EARTH--
ARE ON EARTH.
RETURN HERE ONE DAY IN THE FUTURE...SEE HOW I AM, HOW I RULE IN THE FUTURE... AND I PROMISE YOU, YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU WERE A PART OF THIS FIGHT.
OH, AND MORE GOOD FOR YOU, MIRABAI'S PACT WITH GENERAL LANE WILL BE NO MORE.
AND SPEAKING OF MIRABAI?
SHE IS NOT WITHOUT HER COMELY CHARMS. SHE'LL BE SENT TO MY SERAGLIO.
AND ME, MORDRU?
YOU, ZATARA? YOU'RE A SPECK! BEGONE...
...GO BACK TO YOUR LITTLE WORLD OF LITTLE CONJURES.

AND ME?
YOU, CAPTAIN?
GO BACK TO YOUR LIFE, TOO... YOUR GRAND LIFE.
AND KNOW THIS: IF YOU SEE ME ON EARTH...MY ACTIONS THEN WILL PROBABLY BE COUNTER TO THE GOOD AS YOU SEE IT. AS SUCH, WE MAY INDEED BE FOES.
BUT HERE, SHOULD YOU EVER CHOOSE TO RETURN... TO SORCERERS' WORLD...
...I WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR FRIEND.

IT'S A WEEK LATER.
AND I HAVE TO SAY, THE EARTH LOOKS DIFFERENT TO ME NOW.
SURE, I'M STILL A BIT LOST...UNSURE OF HOW I FIT IN HERE.
BUT NOT FEARED, AT LEAST. NO LONGER DESPISED.
IT WAS MON-EL...A NOTE HE LEFT FOR ME EXPLAINED HOW HIS OWN EXPERIENCE WITH GENERAL LANE HAD GIVEN HIM AN AWARENESS OF THE MEDIA...NEWS... HOW PEOPLE COULD BE COERCED INTO THINKING THE WAY YOU WANT THEM TO.
IN THIS INSTANCE, HE GOT THE DAILY PLANET TO RUN A STORY... "CAPTAIN ATOM: THE RETURN OF A GREAT AMERICAN CHAMPION."
THAT STORY WAS PICKED UP BY MEDIA OUTLETS AROUND THE WORLD AND MY PAST IS FORGOTTEN. BY EVERYONE.
AND, PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT, BY ME. ALMOST.
Le Monde
CAPITAINE ATOME: LE RETOUR D'UN GRAND CHAMPION AMERICAIN

YOU DON'T CALL 911 – YOU CALL THEM!

BRIGHTEST DAY

Birds of Prey #1

Written by GAIL SIMONE Art by ED BENES

DC

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A NEW MONTHLY SERIES

MAY 2010

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MON-EL IS GONE NOW, OF COURSE. I'M SORRY I CAN'T THANK HIM FOR HIS KINDNESS.
I HOPE THAT I CAN AT LEAST DO GOOD IN HIS NAME AND MINE.
I HOPE THAT'S ALL MY FUTURE HOLDS.
THAT "CAPTAIN ATOM THE CHAMPION" WILL BE MORE THAN A NEWS STORY. THAT IT WILL BECOME THE TRUTH.
THAT I AM BELIEVED AND ACCEPTED...

WHO'S HIRED DEATHSTROKE TO FIND BLACK ADAM?

BRIGHTEST DAY

TITANS #1

VILLAINS FOR HIRE SPECIAL

Written by ERIC WALLACE Art by FABRIZIO FIORENTINO

NEW TEAM! NEW DIRECTION!

MAY 2010

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...SO I CAN ONCE AGAIN STAND AMONG HEROES.
I AM NATHANIEL ADAM, LATE U.S. AIR FORCE.
AND THIS IS MY GREATEST WISH.
CAPTAIN ATOM
FINALE
JAMES ROBINSON WRITER • CAFU ARTIST
SANTIAGO ARCAS COLORIST • ROB LEIGH LETTERER
WIL MOSS ASST EDITOR • MATT IDELSON EDITOR
Follow CAPTAIN ATOM'S Journey in JUSTICE LEAGUE: GENERATION LOST #1, On Sale Next Month!

MEANWHILE...

Artwork by Angelo Torres

DICK GIORDANO
1932-2010

Artist. Editor. Teacher. Friend.

Dick Giordano loved comics. What the combination of words and pictures could do and say—as well as what the combinations of writers and artists could do and say WITH those words and pictures—showed Dick that his future was here.

Exposed to comics as a child during a bout with scarlet fever, Dick made it his lifelong business to work in and around the fantastic characters whose exploits helped him during that tough time.

First attending the High School of Industrial Art in Manhattan (which later became the High School of Art & Design), Dick learned the ins and outs of producing commercial art for the comics and advertising worlds of the 1950s. Landing his first job at *Charlton Comics* in 1952, Dick subsequently worked his way up to the position of Editor-in-Chief and forged early professional and personal relationships that would last a lifetime.

In 1967 Dick made the move to DC Comics where he developed a line of innovative new series. Bringing colleagues like **Steve Ditko**, **Steve Skeates** and **Jim Aparo** with him, he introduced DC's readers to the likes of HAWK & DOVE, an updated AQUAMAN and THE CREEPER.

Dick would take a short leave from our halls here at DC to form Continuity Associates in 1971 with artist and friend **Neal Adams**. Here they supplied commercial art to advertisers while still keeping their hand in the business of comic book art. In fact, Adams & Giordano's collaboration on GREEN LANTERN & GREEN ARROW with writer **Dennis O'Neil** is still considered a milestone.

Returning to DC's staff in 1980, Dick was integral to the revitalization that DC (and comics in general) brought to the maturing readers of that decade. **Frank Miller's** THE DARK KNIGHT RETURNS, **Mike Barr** & **Brian Bolland's** CAMELOT 3000 and **Alan Moore** & **Dave Gibbons's** landmark WATCHMEN all were presented to the world during Dick's years as Vice-President/Executive Editor. These titles and more helped change the face of comics—as well as the general public's opinions of comic book material.

Always returning to his favorite friends, Dick helped DC acquire the Charlton Comics characters—heroes like CAPTAIN ATOM and BLUE BEETLE—during this tour of duty, and these are characters who still thrive in the shared DC Universe. In fact, the Charlton characters directly inspired Moore & Gibbons during the creation of the WATCHMEN.

Dick Giordano left DC's staff in 1993 and continued to draw comics—even partnering with **Bob Layton** and, **David Michelinie** to start their own line called *Future Comics*.

When Dick left staff in 1993 **Dennis O'Neil**, **Archie Goodwin** and I took over as a three-headed monster version of an Executive Editor—proving that Dick was working as hard as three guys.

Dick remains one of the most well-respected and beloved artists and editors who have ever worked in the comic book field. And he did share what he knew… teaching a wave of inkers in the '70s much of what he learned. People like **Klaus Janson**, **Terry Austin** and **Bob Wiacek** are tops in their work because of Dick's interest in helping others.

I met Dick myself in the early 1970s when I was a high school student at the High School of Art & Design. One Saturday Dick Giordano returned to his old alma mater and gave a lecture on the comic book field to any young artists with an interest in entering the business. He passed out packets with a sample script (from BATMAN #210, I remember) and told us to do three pages and he'd pick five kids for a private lesson UP AT DC COMICS!

I got picked! So thanks to Dick Giordano I was welcomed into DC's hallways and critiqued and encouraged and treated as a creator for the first time. Dick wanted everyone to enjoy his chosen profession—and to be a part of the future of comics.

When I graduated from college I worked at Marvel Comics as an editor. Despite Dick's encouragement I wasn't a good enough artist to compete with him or his trainees… but I could emulate what I saw as his style for the editorial department. And while few folks' demeanor could be as laid back as Dick's, I always approached creators and any problems with an eye towards being fair. Dick taught me to be fair.

When my time at Marvel was done… my associates managed to arrange an interview for me with Dick for a position DC had in editorial.

I got picked. And for the next seven years Dick taught me more about what comics can do. He was even one of the folks who let me kill Superman (it was for his own good, after all)… because he knew that somehow you could always come back to DC.

Even though Dick passed away on March 27th of this year… he's still here at DC in all of us who work here and in the characters who live here and in you, because every one of us is the future of comics according to Dick Giordano.

Mike Carlin

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